# The Post Office Had a Plan to Send 5 Masks to Every American Household But Postmaster General Louis DeJoy Scrapped It

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Tony Odarg September 29, 2020

Thanks to a watchdog group, we now know that the USPS was going to send 5 masks to every household, but the project was scrapped. This would amount of 650 million masks! Unfortunately, the Post Office is overseen by a Board of Governors whose Postmaster General is a Republican insider with an obsession for cutting budget (aka privatizing aka dollar signs). Let me quote the watchdog director who obtained over 10,000 pages of documents:

“I see President Trump’s fingerprints all over…It’s clear from the president’s public comments, and the actions of his administration, he has a major agenda for the post office — and we see a lot of it in black and white”

What he is talking about is the more than decade-long desire on the part of Republicans to privatize the Post Office. Completely doing so would require a change to the constitution, or at least bypassing it. However, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006 which was pushed heavily by Republicans and supported by Democrats, requires the Post Office do so insane things. One is to set aside in advance the health and retirement benefits for all its employees for the next 50 years. This was done precisely to drive the Post budget into freefall to then give corporate talkers the ability to say essentially that the Post Office is incompetent and needs to be privatized.

But the whole thing is insidious. Most people have no idea how valuable the Post Office is and what would happen to millions of people if it got privatized. Very often in the capitalist world, the term “incentive” is thrown around. It basically means what is most profitable for a business is what business will do. This is not true at all, but let’s use their logic. There are many households that live in very remote areas. The Post Office charges the same amount to send it to remote areas as it does to dense ones. This is because the profit motive doesn’t matter to them. Now imagine a business model and incentives. What possible incentive could exist for a corporation to charge the same amount of money to send the same package to a densely populated city versus a remote address that takes half a day to travel to? Imagine further that you need your medicine delivery and you live in a remote area. If the Post Office is privatized, it will cost no longer let’s say $10, but maybe $250 dollars!

Do you get it now? And who would get all that profit? Well, not the employees. It would go to the owners, the board and the people running the show. So the next time someone tells you the Post Office is inefficient, just tell them Amazon hands off billions of packages to the USPS to delivery because it is not profitable for them to deliver it themselves.

**Links**

Masks: https://www.washingtonpost.com/context/read-the-scrapped-usps-announcement-to-send-5-masks-to-every-american-household/39cd11c9-3e38-4d8a-9d70-7c3215ab9cf8/?itid=lk_interstitial_manual_10
Archive: https://archive.vn/0riRa

Thread: https://twitter.com/TonyRomm/status/1306572686835974144
Archive: https://archive.vn/vWgOI

DeJoy: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_DeJoy
Archive: https://archive.vn/wtAr4

Act: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal_Accountability_and_Enhancement_Act
Archive: https://archive.vn/Doj4p

Documents: https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2020/09/17/usps-trump-coronavirus-amazon-foia/
Archive: https://archive.vn/exYzN